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## Homeless Man Charged with Attempted Murder of Elderly Woman

A homeless man was charged today with the attempted murder of a 70-year-old woman who was walking along a bike path in Santa Clarita, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Colton Ford (dob 11/6/87) faces one count of attempted willful, deliberate and premeditated murder with an allegation that the defendant inflicted great bodily injury upon a victim 70 years of age or older.

Arraignment in case PAo89633 is scheduled today in Department S of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, San Fernando Branch.

On Sept. 25, Ford crossed paths with the victim and allegedly grabbed her and began to strangle her until she became unconscious, prosecutors said. Cyclists riding on the bike path near Creekside Road and Auto Center Drive allegedly saw the defendant standing over the victim and proceeded to call police and keep him away from the woman, prosecutors added.

Bail is scheduled at more than \$1 million. Ford faces a possible maximum sentence of twenty years to life in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Santa Clarita Station.

## **About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office**

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.